

THE TORRANCE HERALD

HOME AND GARDEN

NOV. 3, 1955

TORRANCE HERALD Twenty-nine

Garden Chatter

By LORING BIGELOW

There is a big difference between the two major types of weeds infecting lawns in this area, but it is surprising to note that few people know the difference between Bermuda or Witch Grass as it is commonly called, and Crabgrass.

The first is a perennial, or one that lives for several years and propagates itself mainly from underground stems, although some seeding does take place. Crabgrass is spread mainly from seeding and lives only about one year, but during that short time is certainly a severe pest.

Unfortunately, home gardeners do not try to control it until the grass is observed in the Spring, when it appears almost overnight and if left alone will grow to a height of a foot or so. It is true that young seedlings may be controlled fairly easily, but they do not remain in that "controllable size" very long, and the older a plant becomes the more difficult it is to eradicate.

Right now is the very best time of the year to apply the most effective control method. The old plants which have infested your turf or diondra have, in all probability, seeded and this seed will remain in the ground until the weather and soil warm again late in the Spring.

Your Nursery and Garden Dealer has a product called Pax which has given 100 per cent control for me, and which can do the same for you if used now.

In brief this product will kill the Crabgrass seed and it will not germinate next year. In addition this product will kill your grass and diondra, kill certain soil insects and sow bugs at the same time. This ingredient will not readily wash away by heavy rains or repeated irrigations.

The lawn must be thoroughly dry and no dew on the ground when applied, and time your application for right after a mowing. Five pounds, or 2 1/2 quarts, is applied per 1000 square feet, and the area soaked immediately after application. If any of the material is seen on the grass the next day, the soaking should be repeated. One test plot that I made a few years ago has failed to

show reinfestation, but another area nearby has a very high percentage of the weed. Today this infested area has the easily identifiable long stems of crabgrass creeping along the ground, and seed is appearing along "fingers" which are emerging from the ends of these creeping stems.

Crabgrass is very noticeable in diondra due to its different leaf texture, and its mating technique. It cannot be successfully controlled by mowing or raking.

If you are in doubt as to whether you have Bermuda or Crabgrass, take a sample in to your Nurseryman and he will identify it for you, and if you had it this year you will have it worse next, so get busy and eliminate it now. Follow the directions to the letter, and your results will be very encouraging. Cost is nominal and the results amazing.

250 ATTEND EL RETIRO PARK PARTY

A Halloween party, sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department, was held at El Retiro park Saturday afternoon with various games and races enjoyed by some 250 youngsters, including an apple bobbing session.

Costume parades were judged by the parents of the attending children. Small loving cup trophies were donated by the Los Concioneros, song group, and the H. M. Christner Co. of Gardena. Winners of the cups were:

Donna Anderson, 5 2/3 Vista del Parque, "Japanese Girl"; Fred Klinger, 5 1/2, 422 Camino del Campo, "Mighty Mouse"; Meg MacLeod, 6, 408 Via Pasqual, "Princess of Doo"; Stevie Dale, 8, 204 Via Buena Ventura, "Man with a Jalopy"; and Barbara O'Halloran, 12, 308 Via Pasqual, "Tom Sawyer's Gal". Color cartoons topped with popcorn, candy, prizes, gum, and balloons marked an end to the gala event.

Students Honor Custodians for Building Trailer

Four members of the El Camino college custodial staff bought new pen and pencil sets today, following a presentation sponsored by the Associated Student Body at a recent pep rally.

Awards were made to Paul Pursi, Al Lindner, Y. R. Ball, and Bob Larson for the "unusually fine workmanship" displayed in the construction of a trailer used to carry loud speakers for student events and to house the college Victory bell.

Checking the trailer for licensing purposes, members of the California State Highway Patrol lauded it as being "the best trailer we have ever inspected."

Carl Artwoodson, director of business at the college, said, "Several complaints were received from the neighboring community about the disturbance created by the loud speakers. These speakers were on top of light posts," he elaborated, "and the sound carried on out as well as into the stadium. The trailer has solved this community problem."

Pictures of Warriors, emblematic of the college, decorate each side of the trailer. When taken to neighboring campuses for sports events, it will be drawn by a pick-up truck.

Students have acclaimed the vehicle as a new "team mascot," a trio of dancing Indians, the tradition of the appearance at the El Camino-Long Beach football game in the Warrior stadium Saturday evening.

Civic Group To Hear Isen Wednesday

The Torrance Hills Civic Association will hold its first general meeting next Wednesday, at Hillside School, with Mayor Albert Isen as guest of honor.

The main topic of discussion will be the articles and by-laws for incorporation of the association under the state laws.

The association completed its membership drive and has over 150 paid-up members.

President Tom Abrams advises that residents in the Torrance Hills area who may have missed during the membership campaign may obtain more information by contacting the membership chairman, Mrs. Lee O'Malley, 2942 Winlock Rd., at DA 6-1607.

After the meeting, the group will see "Midget Motorama," with car dealers from this area showing off their 1956 autos. Refreshments also will be served.

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Winter Blooming Annuals Can Cheer Dreary Months

Though all the signs around you in your garden seem to point to the end of blooming things you do not need to resign yourself to a dearth of color in wintertime. For there are many winter-blooming annuals that, planted now, will bloom

Marineland Fish Given Tons of Food

Over 12 tons of mackerel were hauled from the sea last week destined for Marineland and the tummies of the hungry denizens living in the ocean zoo. This is a new phase of fishing operation undertaken by the Oceanarium's collecting crew aboard the "Gerónimo." According to Kenneth Norris, curator.

The marine life of the Oceanarium consume a ton of food per week, the crew will have a constant job of combing local waters to keep up with the demand, explained Norris. Heretofore, the food was purchased from local fish companies.

Squid on List
Fresh squid and sardines are also on the fishermen's shopping list for future trips. Although squid is a favorite food of the finny residents, it is used sparingly at Marineland. After a few months in the tanks, the fish tend to lose some color brilliance. A diet of squid, which has no color pigment, is thought to be the cause.

The schools of mackerel and sardines are caught in a huge ring net which took more than a month for fisherman Frank Brocato and his assistant to make. Resembling a purse seine, the net is of fine nylon and measures 650 feet long and 50 feet deep.

Put on Ice
The catch is hauled aboard the "Gerónimo" and preserved in a hold filled with ice and brine. When the hold is full, the boat puts into the San Pedro plant where the fish are packed in cartons and quick frozen. The supply is kept handy in Marineland's cold storage lockers.

To supplement the fish diet, shrimp and white bait will be purchased from northern fishermen. Fresh kelp beds are harvested weekly from the nearby sea by Marineland divers.

Value of the stolen articles was estimated at \$38 apiece.

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The Nurseryman's Viewpoint

By DICK OEHLMAN

Gardening is a satisfying activity anywhere, but here in Southern California we are able to enjoy outdoor living almost all year-round, gardening is an essential part of homemaking.

All of us who have had the pleasure of making things grow, realize how much knowledge adds to that pleasure.

Bulbs are like perennials. They live a number of years and their foliage dies down between seasons. Food to carry on the life of the plant is stored either in the modified stem (called the bulb, corn or rhizome), or in a modified root (the tuber).

Some bulbs prefer rich earth with plenty of leaf mold and humus, while others like sandy soil. If soil is adobe or clayey, add sand, gypsum or peat moss to it several weeks before planting time. Good drainage is very important, for without it, bulbs will rot.

When you are ready to plant your bulbs, do not put them in recently watered soil, for this will cause the top growth to develop too rapidly.

Dig deep holes and put in materials such as gravel, small stones, or broken clay pots for drainage. Then fill with sand to within six to eight inches of the top to give the roots of the plant a good porous home. The bulb should never come in contact with fertilizer therefore, put in a good plant food and cover with sand mixed with a tablespoon of bone meal. Place the bulb into position with the root base resting on the mixture. Fill the hole with a prepared soil to the surface level.

A general rule of thumb in planting bulbs is to plant the bulbs three times as deep as the height of the bulb, however the bulb should never come in contact with fertilizer therefore, put in a good plant food and cover with sand mixed with a tablespoon of bone meal. Place the bulb into position with the root base resting on the mixture. Fill the hole with a prepared soil to the surface level.

Stacy Rodman Named To Accountant Body
Stacy B. Rodman, of 20028 Ingrum Way, certified public accountant, has been elected a member of the American Institute of Accountants, national professional society of CPAs. Rodman is controller of the Universal Finance Corp., in Los Angeles.

Thieves Raid Housing Tract; Take Equipment
Harold Wright, of the Carson Construction Co., reported to police Monday that someone took four stove exhaust hoods and fans from a tract at 184th St. and Bailey Dr., Saturday night. Value of the stolen articles was estimated at \$38 apiece.

Do not cut foliage until it is completely dead. Drying leaves are unsightly, but while the flowers fade and the green foliage withers, the leaves are transferring food to the bulb. Endure them until they are fully ripened and dry. If you plant a ground cover of annuals to hide the bulbs during the drying period, the garden will not look untidy.

If there are any questions that you would like answered about your gardening problems, send a self-addressed envelope in care of the garden editor.

Homeowners Advised to Clean Up Gardens Before Rains Come

For most plants, annuals, and perennials, evergreen and deciduous alike, Fall means the end of the seasonal growth cycle. Even evergreen shrubs and trees cast off withered blooms now though their foliage continues to flourish throughout the winter. For the gardener then fall means a period of serious clean-up in his garden and yard—serious because the health of your garden depends a great deal on how "clean" it is kept.

As the annuals finish their bloom, the fruit trees drop their fruit and deciduous plants prepare themselves for winter the gardener must concentrate on cleaning up all dead or dying plants, withered leaves, dead blossoms, decaying fruit. Pest-free material can be put on the compost pile! Infected or diseased plants and woody plants that do not decompose easily should be burned. Remove faded material throughout the garden to give a more trim look.

Now is the time to tend to your roses very carefully, too. Clean up their beds thoroughly. Dead wood, twiggy growth or spotted or mildewed leaves or stems should be removed. Pruning of course comes later in the season.

There is some spraying to be done now also. Continue to spray roses as late as seems necessary to keep the blooms and foliage healthy. And as a general precaution spray the entire garden at least twice during the fall months using for instance, a combination insecticide with lime-sulfur at foliage strength.

You may notice an outbreak of aphid, whitefly, or leafhoppers, now. The latter two may cause an early dropping of leaves on some plants. Aphid can be controlled by brushing or spraying with nicotine, lindane, or malathion. Dust or spray the underside of leaves troubled with leafhoppers and whiteflies. Check with your nurseryman on the proper kinds and administration of sprays.

Winter Togs, Yule Add to Accident Toll
Dangerous days for pedestrians are just ahead says the California Highway Patrol. This statement is based on the fact that each year November and December are high accident frequency months for pedestrians.

"During November and December, 1954, there were 2187 pedestrian accidents in California, resulting in death to 157 persons and injuries to 2022," said Commissioner B. R. Caldwell. "This is partially due to the additional number of pedestrians on streets during the evening shopping hours, and the wearing of dark clothing during the fall and winter months," Commissioner Caldwell added.

The primary pedestrian accidents causing accidents are crossing street, not at an intersection; crossing at intersection, no signal; and walking in roadway.

It is obvious that pedestrians, as well as motorists, must obey the traffic rules to avoid traffic accidents.

Anniversary Sale Planned At Jim Dandy

In honor of the first anniversary of Jim Dandy's new supermarket at 174th and Gould Lane, Hermosa Beach, the market is planning a large carload sale for its customers.

The Jim Dandy Market at Carson and Crenshaw in Torrance will join in the giant sale, according to Manager "Shorty" Modeland.

Plenty of bargains for the customer are promised by the market, which will remain open until midnight each night. Large parking lots for cars are available.

Featured in the sale will be groceries, meats, produce, and products of the Sugar 'N Spice Bakery.

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